

IN
3-D **AWKWARD**
AT THE
DOCTOR

SINFUL!
SHOCKING!
REVEALING!



STARRING:

JENNIFER BUSBY • LANCE HEISLER • KARI ODDEN

Are you **QUEER**?

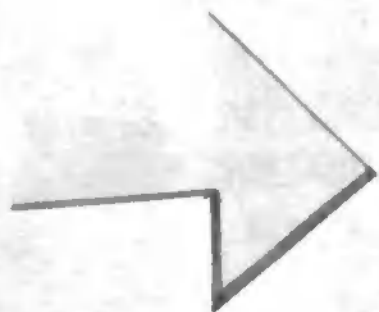
Do check-ups give you **CHILLS**?

Do Nurses make you

NERVOUS?

YEAH,

US TOO.



Put on your hospital gown,
take a deep breath, and
we'll try to get through this
together...

(HERE GOES !!)

CURRENT HEALTHCARE FAILS TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE QUEER COMMUNITY—NOT JUST OUR GAY & LESBIAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS, BUT OUR "BEAUTIFUL" TRANS & INTERSEX & OMNISEXUAL SIBLINGS (AND, OF COURSE, ALL OF YOU WHO SAY FUCK THE LABELS AND FUCK DIVISIVE IDENTITY POLITICS).

TO IMPROVE EVERYONE'S QUALITY OF CARE,
WE DEMAND THAT OUR CARETAKERS...

ASK US WHICH PRONOUNS WE PREFER.

DON'T ASSUME WE'RE HETERO, OR THAT
OUR PARTNERS ARE.

DON'T BASE THEIR TREATMENT ON STEREOTYPES.

REMEMBER HOW OUR NEEDS FOR SAFER SEX DIFFER.

MAKE IT COMFORTABLE FOR US TO DISCUSS OUR
SEXUAL BEHAVIOURS WITHOUT JUDGEMENT.

DELIVER THE SAME QUALITY OF CARE TO
ALL OF THEIR PATIENTS.

ARE AWARE OF THE PERVASIVENESS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE
AND RECOGNIZE THAT WE ALL MAY HAVE EXPERIENCED
SEXUAL ASSAULT.

BE HONEST ABOUT THEIR EDUCATION LEVEL AND WORK
TO INFORM THEMSELVES TO BETTER SERVE US.

BECAUSE...

IF WE'RE NOT COMFORTABLE, IF WE GET
TRIGGERED, WE'RE NOT COMING BACK FOR
THE CARE WE NEED.

WHEN WE DON'T GET THE PREVENTATIVE
CARE & TREATMENT WE NEED, OUR DRs
FAIL TO UPHOLD THEIR HIPPOCRATIC OATH.

The Family Doctor



• • • • •

& AFTER VISITING THE FAMILY DOC FOR A FEW YEARS

I met a GIRL.



which was not a
family affair
... just mine



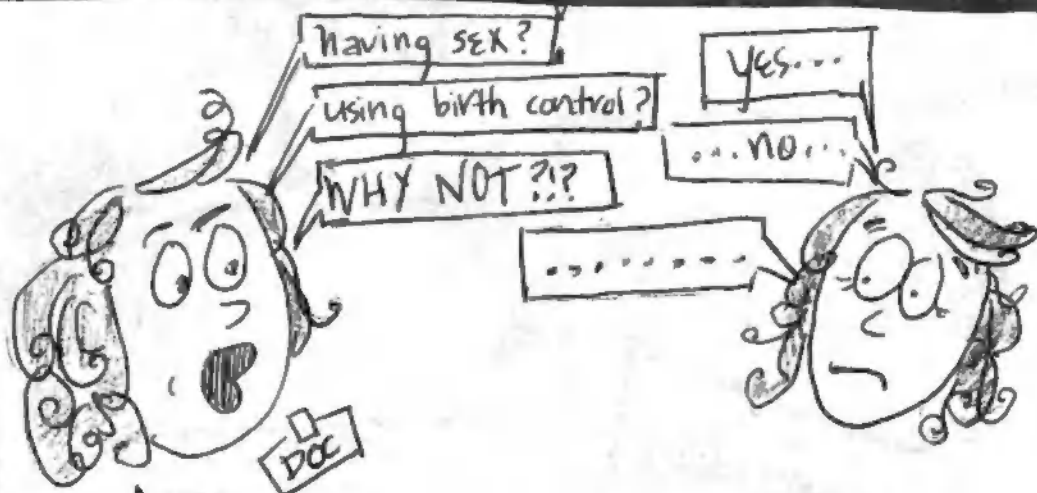
= gray areas.

HOW SAFE IS GIRL SEX??



& how do
I ask my
family's doctor
about it?
????

what I was afraid of:



★ DON'T WORRY! IT'S CONFIDENTIAL,
and, doctors don't make assumptions
about yer health, so they shouldn't
make assumptions about yer sexuality.



what REALLY happened ↑



GOOD DOCTORS
ONLY CARE ABOUT
YOUR **HEALTH** —
EVEN IF THEY
ARE UNFAMILIAR
WITH YOUR
LIFESTYLE.

BUT. AWARENESS OF **BISSEXUALITY**
CAN EVAPORATE THE AWKWARDNESS
BETWEEN THE QUESTION OF SEX AND
THE QUESTION OF NEED FOR BIRTH CONTROL,
& THE CONFUSION THAT ARISES AT
THE SWITCH OF YOUR NEEDS

THIS IS WHAT I'D LOVE TO HEAR:

"Use a condom
on your toys!"

"Use a dental dam! 'Cause guess
what — women can get & spread
STIs, too — even HIV."

"Wash yo hands!"

"You should
still get tested!"



• BORN AND RAISED IN: a small, conservative town in Alaska. moved to Eugene to live among hippies and musicians and study art!

• LAST THING I ATE: 2 vanilla milkshakes w/ fuses!

• HOUSE PLANTS: 2 ivys, 2 palms, a zebra plant, and one with big ol' purple & green leaves.

• [S] CURRENTLY PLAYING: water tower bucket boys!

• LAST INJURY: sprained big-toe... too much beer...

■ STUFFED ANIMALS? Thru the tiger!

• LAST EMBARRASSING MOMENT: Someone asked me how much a moose weighs... and (RED IN THE FACE) I just said... "they're pretty big!" ...

• FYI: MOOSE CAN WEIGHT UP TO 1300 lbs!

■ CURRENTLY READING: Farewell, my Subarn. by Doug Fine (it's good!)

• SARAH PALIN: Can Kiss my

• FAVORITE PLACE IN EUGENE:

"The Cliff" - a hidden ledge on the way up to Hendrick's park...

■ A FAVORITE PLACE ON CAMPUS:

The wooden structure behind DPS & tucked between Psychology classrooms.

Karies bio....

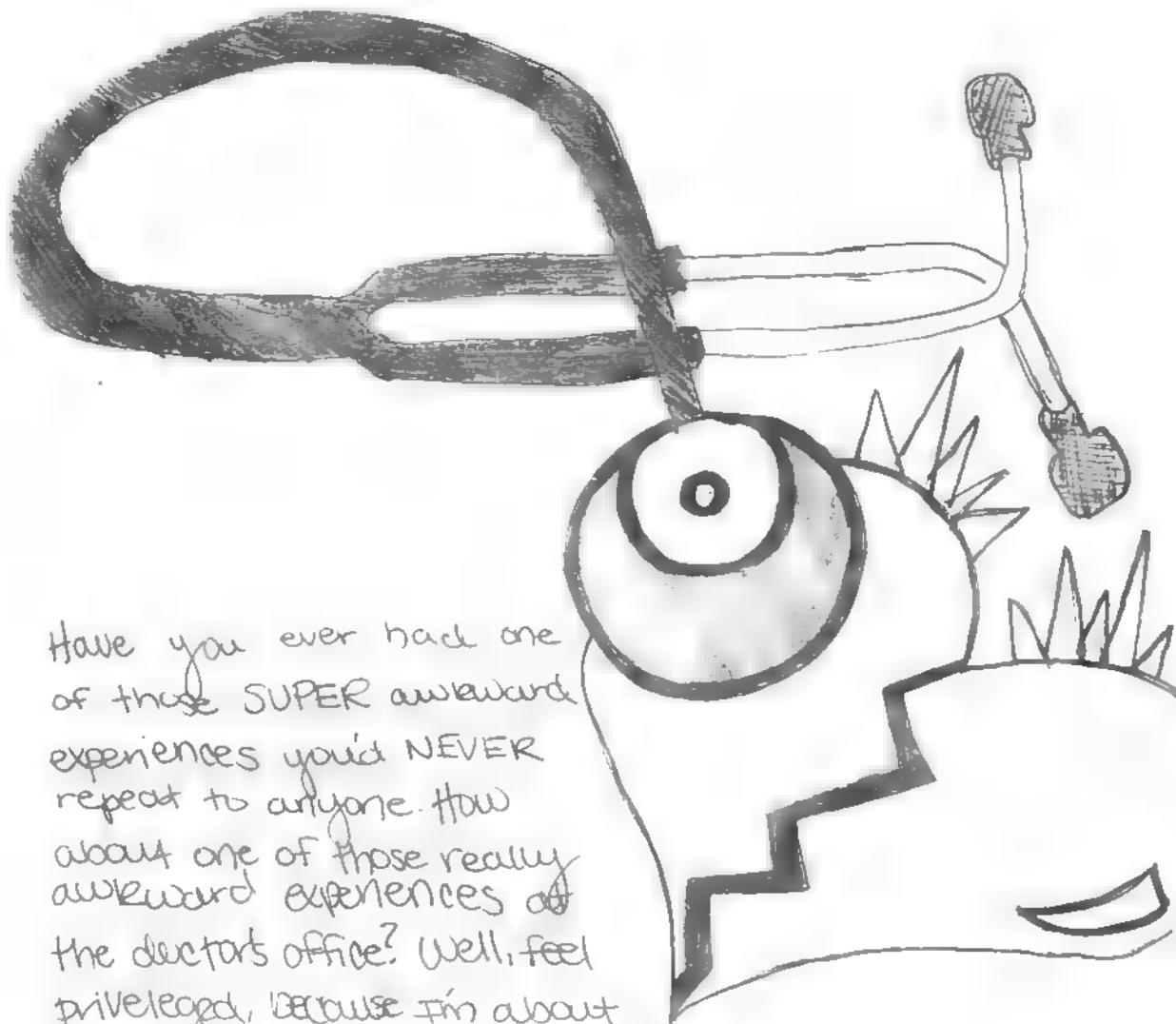


AWKWARD AWKWARD

AWKWARD....

~ A gay male story about going
to the doctor.
by Lance Heiser





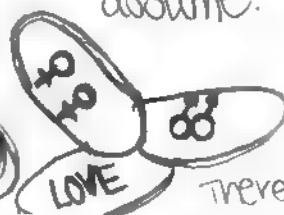
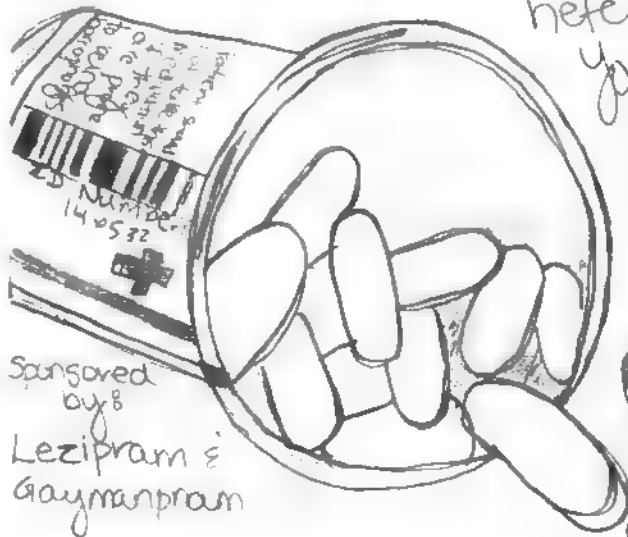
Have you ever had one of those SUPER awkward experiences you'd NEVER repeat to anyone. How about one of those really awkward experiences at the doctor's office? Well, feel privileged, because I'm about to share one of those weird experiences that I've had. It's an experience that seemed to linger with me for weeks following my appointment.

I should mention now that this story is specifically meant for all those lesbians, guys, queers and trans persons out there that know what type of stories

I'm talking about. So if you're a breeder, QUIT READING, this doesn't pertain to you! Okay, just kidding! We love our heterosexual inhabitants of this Earth... most of them anyways. Erm, erm. Maggie Gallagher & all those close minded members of NOM. ~~Not~~ to mention any names or anything.

So, back to the point of my story: LGBTQ community members often go through embarrassing or difficult situations at the doctor's office because of their sexual orientation. With a predominantly heterosexual society, many doctors make assumptions about their patients' sexual orientation. Remember physicians... and I hope you all would understand this on the first try considering the number of years you've all spent in school's assumptions make an Ass of You and Me. And believe me, you are making an ass of yourself if you immediately think that a person is heterosexual... or homosexual.

You may end up offending your patients. Everyone goes to the doctor — gay and straight alike. So think before ya'll assume.



There's no curing this LOVE!

I recently had to go in for a physical for work. I always cringe at the thought of physicals. It's soooo awkward!!! They tell you to drop trousers a few times... and then they proceed to fondle the testicles and the shaft of the penis... checking for cancer signs, hernias, and all that jazz... needless to say, it can get a little uncomfortable!

If this isn't bad enough, how about getting a physical from a male doctor who is heterosexual, while you, as the patient, happen to be gay. On the possibilities for a difficult situation to spring up! Pun Intended! Well, if the doctor is tall, dark and handsome — and mine definitely was — these things can sometimes happen... oops! I've yet again side-stepped the point of the story, which is this:

I went into the doctor's office for a regular check-up after I contracted bronchitis and a sinus infection while abroad. Of course my doctor asked if I had been sexually active while abroad. I told him "yes" but that I had already been checked and I was all good. Blah, blah, blah! "Don't drink," "Don't smoke"... then came the "protection" talk. The doctor says to me: "I want to make sure you're using protection since you

are sexually active. I would hate to see you get a girl pregnant or contract an STD from a woman...

HOLD IT... did he see me walk in? Did he see the tight pants? Hear the high-pitched voice? Did he just assume that I was straight?

First of all, this has never happened before in my life. I mean, it's just so obvious, isn't it? Needless to say, things got Awkward!!!

I responded, quite sassily I might add, "Oh, I don't think I'll need to be wary of getting a girl pregnant any time soon." I still don't think he ever took the hint. He scurried on his way and I've never been back since.

I wasn't mad at him. I was just a little taken aback that he automatically spoke to me as if I were a heterosexual... he made an assumption, something that physicians in particular shouldn't do.

Awkward physicals and medical checkups are common for the LGBT community. Many find that they have to divulge their private information to a complete stranger in order to get the correct diagnosis or whatever... We go through these issues as members of the "queer" community. It's nice to know there are others out there dealing with these awkward situations. I guess next time I should just wear a rainbow tie to my appointment that way it's right out in the open from the get-go. Doctors should have practices that make people feel safe and comfortable.

I guess I'll go to a different doctor next time... which I did. I'm sure he'll be seeing a lot more gay men coming to his practice. By the way... he's gay, fabulous, cute... and did I mention he's a doctor?
hmmmm

Not quite the Dr.'s Office

But still awkward none the less.



It's funny because random situations just like this one could happen in the least expected places. It has become a daily chore to deal with awkward straight men & women. Keep your eyes open. Creeds have been spotted all over... from the market place, library, & craft store, to the gym, & even in the car.

TRIGGERS

HEY PLANNED PARENTHOOD! Next time I go in for an exam, can you tell your nurse to be more polite. She didn't even tell me her NAME before she jammed a speculum into my body. DON'T TELL ME TO RELAX. I DON'T KNOW YOU. You do the same thing every time, don't you? How many women have you triggered with your brutal bedside manner? Don't choke yourself with the idea that clinic workers need to be clinical. After my exam, after I was shuffled out the door, I skulked to the bike rack & spent a long time just breathing. Just listening to my body to make sure I was okay. Yeah, I could cope with the feeling that I had been violated. I've felt it before. Had I not been okay, I would've walked my bike home and called the Sexual Assault Support Services hotline. Knowing SASS will be there helps me get through the day →



→ Sometimes, even though I've never called.
Knowing somebody's always there makes
a huge difference in not feeling so ALONE.
You know what else helps? Knowing that I
have rights and that I deserve
healthcare that fits me, the messy combo
of identities that I carry: queer,
femme, a survivor of sexual assault,
a ciswoman. I'm looking forward to the
day that I don't get a furrowed brow
from the nurse when I tell her
that I came in because I fucked a
girl who happened to call me
AFTER to tell me she had
Chlamydia. That's why I'm here, no-
name nurse. No, it wasn't some round
of drunk Collegiate experimentation.
I'm queer all of the time. Maybe
you could have tucked some dental
dams into my "safer" sex goody
bag. Next time, I'm calling you
out on your heterosexist bullshit.
'CAUSE IF I DON'T,
WHO WILL???



RESOURCES

"SEX ED FOR THE REAL WORLD"
SCARLETEEN.ORG ↗

JUST SAY YES! (E-ZINE)

POSITIVE.ORG/JUSTSAYYES/INDEX.HTML

QUEER ZINE ARCHIVE PROJECT
QZAP.ORG

Q CENTER ↘
PDXQCENTER.ORG

NATIONAL YOUTH ADVOCACY
COUNCIL → NYAC.ORG

ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH
ADVOCATESFORYOUTH.ORG

SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY
YOUTH RESOURCE CENTER
SMYRC.ORG
3024 NE MLK BLVD, PORTLAND
(AT NE MLK 5 BLOCKS SOUTH
OF FREMONT STREET)

GMHC → GMHC.ORG

INTERSEX SOCIETY OF
NORTH AMERICA ISNA.ORG

SAN DIEGO GAY MEN
GAYMENSHEALTH.ORG

TRANSGENDERCARE.COM

THE BODY THEBODY.COM

HIV ALLIANCE (SOUTHERN OREGON)
HIVALLIANCE.ORG

CASCADE AIDS PROJECT
CASCADEAIDS.ORG

SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCE
CENTER (IN PORTLAND, OR)
SARCOREGON.ORG

SEXUAL ASSAULT SUPPORT
SERVICES (LANE COUNTY, OR)
SASS-LANE.ORG

CRISIS LINE: 541-343-7277

1-800-788-4727

got QUESTIONS ???
(write them here ↓)

